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Volume XXXI. No. 147.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway, near Broome street.—MARTHA.

WOODS THEATRE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—THE ELVES—AND THE GOOD FOR NOTHING.

GROBIE CHRISTY'S—OLD SCHOOL OF MINSTER, BROADWAY, MUSICAL GEMS, &c. FULL AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth street.—THE THREE GRACES.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 95 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—ETHIOPIAN SINGERS, DANZERS, &c.—MARTHA.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 20 Bowery.—SINGING, DANCING, BURLAP, &c.—ONE HUNDRED YEARS HERE.

BRANT'S MINSTRELS, Merchants' Hall, 42 Broadway.—SINGING, DANCING, BURLAP, &c.—MARTHA.

ROOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS.—SINGING, DANCING, BURLAP, &c.—MARTHA.

BROOKLYN ATHLETIC.—ROBERT HELLER, THE GREAT CHAMPION.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. till 10 P. M.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN, Corner of Twenty-third street and Fourth Avenue.—EXHIBITION OF ORIGINAL WORKS BY LIVING ARTISTS.

New York, Monday, May 7, 1866.

THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

The shipwreck of the *Peruvian*, from London, March 27, passed Fort Point yesterday on her voyage to Quebec. Her news is five days later.The steamship *City of Washington*, from New York, and *Providence* from Philadelphia, both on the 21st of March, had not yet been heard of.The United States steamer *Kearney*, from Sierra Leone, was in quarantine off Lisbon, with fever on board. Fourteen of her crew had died.A New York correspondent of the *London Times* writes on "high authority" that the United States government will "do what is right" against the Fenians.

Earl Russell's anticipated majority in the Reform bill has been diminished; a good many liberal members having been unseated in the Commons for bribery during their election. The division was expected to be very close, and the defeat of the bill was conjectured in some quarters.

Austria and Prussia had agreed to a mutual disarmament and settlement of the German question; Austria maintaining, however, a very warlike attitude towards Italy. The situation became so menacing in this respect that, just previous to the departure of the *Peruvian*, Prussia refused to disarm so long as Victor Emmanuel was threatened. It is said that Napoleon had informed the King of Italy that, in the event of a war with Austria, France will not let him aid. The *London Times* was hoaxed by forged despatches, dated at the Foreign Office in London into the publication of the news of the actual rupture of diplomatic relations between Austria and Prussia. The armies of Austria and Italy were on a war footing, and strict war precautions were exercised by the Austrians on the frontier.

Consuls closed in London April 27 at 90% a 97 for money. United States five-twentieths 70 a 70 1/2.

The Liverpool cotton market opened firmer in the week, with an advance of one and one-fourth of a penny on American. This gain was partially lost during the five days, the market closing at an advance ranging from one-half to one penny on the 27th ultimo. Breadstuffs inactive, with prices nominally unchanged. Business dull.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The liquor saloons of this city and Brooklyn were closed yesterday in accordance with the Sabbath provision of the new excise law. There was, as far as could be ascertained, the fullest compliance with the law. As a consequence of one and one-fourth of a penny on American. This gain was partially lost during the five days, the market closing at an advance ranging from one-half to one penny on the 27th ultimo. Breadstuffs inactive, with prices nominally unchanged. Business dull.

The American and Foreign Christian Union held its anniversary last evening in the Presbyterian church, corner of Fourth avenue and Twenty-second street. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., who alluded to great length and in the strongest terms "to the ever-increasing and pernicious influence of the Church of Rome."

The Rev. Mr. Hart, of the new Church of the Advent, on Forty-sixth street, addressed the congregation in behalf of the trustees of the church, who required more money to complete the purchase. Munificent donations were made.

The thirty-second anniversary of the American Female Centenary Society was held last evening at the Collegiate Reformed Dutch church, corner of Twenty-ninth street and Fifth avenue. Some one hundred and fifty children, provided for by the society, were in the church, looking remarkably neat and clean, and denoting that every care was taken of them. The order of exercises comprised, after prayer, singing by the children, the annual sermon, singing by the choir, an address and a collection for the funds of the society.

The eighth anniversary of the Church Anti-Slavery Society took place last evening in Dr. Cheever's church. The reverend gentleman delivered an address stating what the society is, and then delivered a sermon in advocacy of negro suffrage.

The Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., delivered a discourse, last evening, in the Presbyterian church, corner of Fifth avenue and Nineteenth street, on the progress and suc-

cess attending the labors of the American and New York Bible societies in the distribution of the sacred Scriptures in the United States.

A dinner was given by the New York Yacht Club to Commodore Edwin A. Stevens, on the occasion of his retiring from the command of the squadron, on Saturday, when he was made the recipient of a silver punch bowl.

Mr. John O'Mahony, lately tried and deposed by the Fenian subscribers, has issued a long circular, palliating late acts and laying certain charges against Killian. Other official circulars unveil the last acts of the Fenian rulers. A General Sweeney rally is to come off to-morrow evening, in Jersey City, at Franklin Hall, Montgomery street. W. J. Hyman, A. L. Morrison and others will speak. The Senate meets again to-day.

Mrs. Davis is still at Fort Monroe. No limit is placed upon the length of her visit, but she is restricted in her conversations with her husband to the hours between reveille and sunset.

It is stated in Washington that negotiations are on foot for the purchase by leading American capitalists of nearly the entire of Lower California from the Mexican republic, for the purpose of developing the rich mineral resources of that country. Over a million dollars have been advanced to the Mexican Minister in aid of the project.

A circular has just been issued by Commissioner Rollins, of the Internal Revenue office, at Washington, which directs assessors and collectors to proceed to the assessment and collection of taxes arising from the sale of stocks, &c., by brokers and bankers, whether on their own account or on commission.

Henry G. Wheeler, the President of the Florida and Louisiana Railroad, who was arrested in Boston some time ago, on the charge of intending to abscond with two hundred thousand dollars worth of bonds belonging to the Pike's Peak Railroad Company, was before the Supreme Court in that city yesterday. The case was continued.

The new hospital of the Catholic Sisters of the Poor in Hoboken was blessed and opened yesterday by Bishop Bayley.

The crops in Texas are in excellent condition, and all fears of an overflow of Red river have disappeared.

Lord John Russell and Our Infant Terrible.—Why Should We Not Be Friends?

Lord John Russell is a man of excellent sentiments—like Joseph Surface. He is also an eminently respectable man; so very respectable that it would not at all do, it would be a kind of social outrage, to suppose that he could be guilty of any act of questionable morality. He has assured us frequently of his high regard. He has told us how much he admired our spirit, and paid us the highest of all the respectable compliments in declaring that we were second only to England herself in the possession of all admirable qualities. His sentiments were so beautiful and his respectability so positive that it would have been the basest ingratitude in us not to feel how splendid a thing it was to have secured his recognition. We felt it accordingly. How could we have had the moral courage to intimate that he might not be sincere? We so young and he so respectable. It is true that we knew all the time he had done things not consistent with his professed admiration and amity. We had a thousand good evidences that he hated us with bitter intensity. But we were so overpowered by his respectability, so oppressed by the gracious condescension of his sentiments, that we never had the heart to speak out plainly and call him to account, and so we went on in the conventional way, and through Mr. Seward, who does propriety on our part, we answered Lord Russell's polite palaver with palaver equally polite and assured him in the true society style of our distinguished consideration.

But there is a character not to be controlled by the ordinary usages of society, not crushed by the dignity of others, never put down by any reflections on its own insignificance. This is the infant terrible. It is a creature that is the horror of all good society on account of the simple truths it blurts out. No solemn sham is safe against its childlike simplicity. It asks the splendid lady of fashion if those are her new teeth, and what she has done with the ugly ones she had last year, and to please take her hair off to show how easy she can do it. It tells the elegant fop that the coat he has on now is prettier than the blue one with patches on the elbows that he had on last time, and so on, exposing with innocent unconsciousness all the admirably arranged cheats of the respectable people. We have in our American family a good specimen of this character named Bancroft. One day we had a party, and among those invited were some particular friends of the eminently respectable man of beautiful sentiments, Earl Russell. And it happened that the infant terrible let out in the presence of these persons all our private family opinions of the great Earl. It was terrible. All our fire-side expressions were absolutely laid bare to the world by this indiscreet little gabbler, and the Earl, who had supposed that our polite expressions were sincere, learned that we really saw through all his shams and actually had the audacity to canvass his hypocrisy. We were awfully ashamed it made such a fuss.

But this, as it was, was not the worst of it. The exposures of an infant terrible are uncomfortable enough, and people generally show their common sense by refusing to hear what is said. It will commonly be noticed that when an infant terrible has hit upon any particularly awkward point everybody is looking out of the window or lost in rapturous admiration of a Domenichino, or doubled up over a torso in the corner, so that you can hardly attract their attention. This is polite, and the injured individual may suppose that no one has heard what was said. Imagine any one stupid enough to answer the infant terrible, or instituting an argument on the topic to correct false impressions! This is just what Lord Russell has done. We invite particular attention to the letters and extracts that illustrate his folly in another part of the paper. He has written to *pater familias* that the infant terrible must be hauled over the coals; that such a prattler must not be permitted to throw suspicion on the good intentions of so respectable a person. His letter to Mr. Adams is a model for all future personages who, scandalized by uncomfortable truths, may deem it expedient to write to the guardians or other persons supposed to be responsible for the offending infant.

The infant terrible, however, had found a letter somewhere, and no sooner does he hear of Russell's demand that he should be laid across the paternal knee than, presto, he produces this letter. Brought to the point, he gives clear, distinct, deliberate, unquestionable proof of his original declaration that Russell had "made haste to send word through all the palaces of Europe that the great republic was in its agony; that a headstone was all that remained due by the law of nations." His argument will immensely deepen the impression made by his original utterance. He discloses, also, a curious fact—namely, that he had told the British Minister not to come to the House of Representatives on the day in question. He informed him twice that he would bear unpleasant things and had better stay away; but the bold Briton wouldn't do it. He would

have his feelings hurt. He was resolved and determined to endure the hard things, and went just where he knew they would reach him. The letters of Russell to Adams about Bancroft, and of Bancroft to Adams about Russell, with the accompanying papers, are richly worth perusal.

There is one very remarkable point in Russell's exculpation of himself, as fine a piece of British cant as we have ever seen. Unable to answer the arguments of his complicity in the English scheme against us, he threw himself back on the general principles of philanthropy. He quotes from the Declaration of Independence the words of the fathers that Englishmen should be to us as the rest of mankind, "enemies in war, in peace friends." And upon this he echoes, "Why should we not be friends as the great men of the American Revolution intended us to be?" Can anything of lofty impudence surpass this? Why should we not be friends? says this high priest of cant. Why are you always remembering and throwing up to me the uncomfortable things I have done? Why don't you let me love you? Why should we not be friends? Why? He sent out the Alabama armed with British cannon, shielded in British ports, to burn hundreds of American ships; but why should we not be friends? He did the same with the Sea King, and when she came home again he set her red-handed pirates free, as if they had done something praiseworthy. And why should we not be friends? He thought it was all right that men should cross from Canada to burn our villages and attempt to burn our great cities—right that the British authorities should support them and set them at large when brought into court. Why should we not be friends? Can anybody possibly find any reason why we should not be friends, and why the American people should not love and admire Lord Russell just as much as Lord Russell does the American people?

Weak Spots in the National Banking System.

It is not many weeks since the failure of Culver, Penn. & Co., in this city, led to the immediate suspension of several national banks in the oil regions of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, and just now the failure of a Baltimore stock house has involved that of the Merchants' National Bank at Washington, and the loss of about four hundred thousand dollars to the government, it having been a public depositary. This, we fear, is only the beginning of a long series of similar explosions and the first symptom of the decline of the entire system of national banking, which was originated by Mr. Chase for selfish and political purposes, without regard to the good of the country.

That the banks so constituted are parasites upon the Treasury is manifest enough from a perusal of the act authorizing their creation, which confers upon them pecuniary privileges and exemptions enjoyed by no such institutions under any other government in the world; and that in many cases they are used as instruments for supporting and promoting the speculations and credit of their stockholders is equally certain from recent developments. They are also gradually becoming what they were designed to be, namely, a huge political power, to be used by unscrupulous men for the furtherance of sinister purposes. These, therefore, are not the objects upon which the public money should be wasted when there are so many other interests which have a claim upon the government for support. The interest money now paid to national banks upon the bonds deposited as the basis of their circulation would be much better employed, for instance, in subsidizing American steamers, and so alleviating the miseries attending immigration to this country from Europe in ill-provided and overcrowded vessels sailing under alien flags.

The profits of national banks are shown by the large dividends which, in most cases, they are enabled to pay, some rising as high as twenty per cent per annum; and we consider it the duty of Congress to pass measures for the reduction and ultimate extinction of the interest on the bonds deposited by them with the Treasury, and from which, as it is, they reap the profit of a double investment. The rottenness which underlies the management of a large portion of them foreshadows the ultimate fate of the whole. They will continue to collapse one by one at intervals till finally public confidence in them will be lost, their depositors will share in the prevailing distrust, their notes will fall to a discount and be bought up by speculators, who will present them for redemption, thus forcing them into liquidation; and the pet scheme of Mr. Chase will have been tried and found wanting. This general collapse may not occur until an attempt is made to resume specie payments, but the props are already beginning to give way, and the Treasury cannot be too careful in the selection of its depositaries after its fresh experience in the case of the Merchants' National Bank at Washington.

THE INCOME TAX AND THE TAX COLLECTORS.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that it is not necessary for tax collectors to serve official notice upon a person before paying his income tax; but that he must go to the collector's office, obtain a blank and fill it up. In other words, he must step up to the collector's office and settle. This occasions an inconvenience to taxpayers which we hardly think the circumstances of the case warrant. No people in the world ever submitted more uncomplainingly to a great burden of taxation than the people of the United States do to theirs. They have paid into the national Treasury within a few years upwards of a thousand millions of dollars in excess of their taxation of former years. They deserve the highest praise for their liberality, and posterity will honor them for it. But, while they submit so cheerfully to this burden, there is no reason why the government should impose unnecessary hardships or inconvenience upon them in regard to the manner in which taxes shall be collected. It requires very little labor for collectors to serve blanks upon every taxable person in their several districts. They are paid well for their services, and many of them contrive to carry on some other business besides that of collecting the internal revenue. Some have their down town offices, and when engaged in government matters behave more like great moguls than servants of the people. To see them at times one would imagine them to have been the sole heroes of the war and saviors of the Union, whereas probably not one in a thousand ever smelt gunpowder. With them, during the rebellion, everything certainly was "quiet on the Potomac." We repeat that the internal revenue, especially that derived from the income tax,

should be collected in as easy a manner as possible. In no case should it be done in a way calculated to be offensive to the people, for their burdens are already sufficiently onerous. It will do no harm to the collectors if they should be obliged to send blanks to be filled up by taxpayers, and not have citizens mulcted in heavy damages for failure to wait upon their majesties, the collectors, and beg for an opportunity to be severely taxed.

Governor Fenton's Municipal Investigations to be Resumed.

We publish elsewhere the act passed by the recent Legislature perfecting the existing laws relative to the powers of the Governor for the removal of public officers. It was originated and reported from the Judiciary Committee, of which Judge Selden was chairman, and it simply comprises a brief and practical extension of the existing laws, giving the Executive of the State a direct and effective control over all those officials, whether city or county, who it is now provided by law he shall remove for cause.

It will be remembered that the Governor, after a prolonged hearing last year of the charges against the Comptroller and other officials of this city, concluded his action by referring the subject to the Legislature in a special communication, asking for power to appoint commissioners to carry on the investigation. It was shown last year that the law did not give more than nominal powers to the Governor; hence the postponement of action on the charges which are still pending, and which, under the amended law, can now be examined to some purpose. In view of the action of the Legislature it becomes at once the duty of Governor Fenton to select a judicious and efficient person to enter thoroughly and dispassionately upon the work of finally disposing of the various charges before him. He owes it also to the public interests of this city, in view of the election this year of the Comptroller, the principal official of the municipality, to have the examination so conducted as to afford the people a full insight into the extraordinary manner in which the affairs of the corporation departments are carried on.

The amended law provides that the Governor shall appoint a commissioner in these inquiries, and file such appointment in writing with the Secretary of State, the proceedings to be conducted by the Attorney General, who also will probably designate some suitable person to prosecute the inquiry. There is no limitation or restriction as to the range which this investigation shall take, and the cause to be found for authorizing the Governor to act rests in his own executive discretion, without question or review by any other authority. The power to compel testimony is absolute, and the production of books and papers and punishment for perjury are provided for, without any of the legal obstructions which defeated this last year. The range of his jurisdiction comprises the county officers, the executive officers of the corporation, and the various commissioners, practically the entire government of the municipality. Holding this power exclusively, the State Executive is now absolutely responsible for any wrong doing here almost as much as he might be for the misconduct of his immediate staff. The power to investigate and remove necessarily implies this responsibility, and should hereafter direct the vigilance of the executive chamber to every serious abuse and complaint here, as much as to any other portion of the Governor's charge in the State.

It appears that the invidious and partisan spirit which greatly marred the examinations last year has subsided or has been bought off altogether. There is, however, an organized preparation at hand to push the examination into our municipal affairs on a more judicious and temperate plan. It is proposed to have the subject taken up forthwith on the pending charges, with revisions and emendations which shall comprise more especially the Street Department, and so as to take in the notorious scope of the remaining junks of the "ring" as it stands. The Finance Department is the centre of all the other offices and the grand aim of all their operations. From its archives these operations can all be tracked. Let the matter be trusted to a really capable and able man. Let him pursue his investigation in the sphere of Tweed and Sweeney behind the scenes, as well as in those of Cornell and Brennan in their official capacities as Street Commissioner and Comptroller. Let it be ascertained how the city contracts are given out, how they are paid, and what the contractors mean by their talk about heavy percentages and margins which are discounted from their warrants before they realize their money. The inquiry should take in its scope all the fiscal transactions of the city and the county, including the audit of expenses and materials for the new Court House, and all the other county transactions which have excited public attention from their fraudulent or suspicious nature.

The result of such a work would prove most salutary. Changing our officials does not amount to any practical remedy or even a change in the existing evils. It is a change in the system which we want. The investigations of last year by the Governor, and of the year previous by the Senate Committee, have given us a board of health and a number of other most excellent measures at the hands of the Legislature. This year, with the expiration of the terms of office of Cornell and Brennan, another investigation must prove of the greatest importance. The office of Comptroller alone, in the hands of an able and honest man, with the right purposes, would comprise almost all the reform legislation we need. With the right man also for Street Commissioner, who could be forced upon Mayor Hoffman, a new municipal era could be secured for the city.

THE SUNDAY LAW IN FORCE IN NEW YORK AND BROOKLYN.—The law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors in any form on the Sabbath went into operation in this city and Brooklyn yesterday, and we believe was universally observed. No drinking places of any kind were open, and not even a glass of small beer could be procured in the usual places for love or money. It was curious to witness the effect of so sudden a suppression of these places of common resort on Sunday. Along the docks numbers of persons could be seen congregated or listlessly strolling about without any apparent object. The streets also were occupied by a new class of pedestrians, and it was altogether a new epoch in the lives of the old campaigners of New York. Those who wanted a drink very badly bytook themselves to the shores

of New Jersey—Jersey City, Hoboken, &c. We congratulate Jersey upon its good fortune in securing so valuable an addition to her Sunday population; but we caution her against these Sunday raids upon her pleasure retreats by the rowdies and other hard characters of New York. Let her pass a Sunday law like ours if she desires peace and quietness on the Sabbath; get proper men to enforce it, and try the benefit of having one good sober Sunday. It will be a good thing for Jersey.

Saturday's Debate in Congress.—The Wrath of the Radicals Against Andrew Johnson.

Saturday has become a day in which the House of Representatives, like a steamboat tied up at the dock, has its valves opened to let off from its boilers their useless but still accumulating volume of steam. Thus the general debate in the House on Saturday last was chiefly devoted to the discharge of the accumulated wrath of the radicals against President Johnson. In this salutary and refreshing pastime Mr. Ingersoll, of Illinois, led off in the peculiar style of a prairie radical. According to Ingersoll the patriotic people of the North had now not only the defeated rebels and their Northern allies to fight, but the Executive, with all his power and patronage, but the Southern aristocracy and the President to boot would have to succumb to Northern patriotism. "Andrew Johnson never had been with the Union republican people at heart," "Andrew Johnson was essentially a Southern man, with the prejudices, the animosities, the hatreds and the superstitions of the Southern people." "He was to-day filled with the poison of the malaria of slavery, which he inherited in his infancy and in the ripening years of his life." He "had talked loud about the blackness of treason;" but now that he "looked to be re-elected in 1868, he whispered in the ears of rebels that all his talk about punishing traitors was mere gammon, intended for New England and Illinois." "The President had pardoned his old friends and betrayed the party which gave him name. He had given the lie by his own actions to the sentiments which he had expressed."

Such disgraceful language as this from a member of Congress on the floor of the House, in deliberative debate, against the head of the Executive department of the government is, if we are not mistaken, without a precedent in the history of this country. But, having lashed himself into a fury, this excited Illinois radical did not stop here. He went on to say that "he would wager all he owned that Andrew Johnson would never have Jeff Davis tried, or that if Davis were tried and convicted, Andrew Johnson would pardon him. All that traitors had now to do was to scrape up money enough to come to Washington and apply for pardon, and they got it; or if they did not present their applications personally they could do it through the mail just as well." Here a member of the House interposed, "or the females!"—a remark which excited an outburst of laughter. Adopting the hint, the gentleman from Illinois repeated, "or through the females," which was regarded as so exquisitely spicy that the House again broke out into laughter.

Now this scandalous innuendo may have been very amusing and grateful to the radical fanatics of the House sharing in the sentiments of this insane man of Illinois, but we can only regard such assaults at this crisis upon the President in Congress as significant of danger to and revolutionary troubles in the government. It appears, too, that with this Illinois radical fire-ateer the question seemed to be "whether William H. Seward or Andrew Johnson was to get the thanks of the Southern rebels for the crumbs and loaves they were throwing to them on every side. He (Ingersoll) had not the least particle of faith in either of them—not a particle. He believed that W. H. Seward was running a race with Andrew Johnson to see which would have the support of the Southern people in 1868, and that they were crawling like toads in the Northern States to see if they could not get votes enough to be elected," and so on for two mortal hours, when, relieved of his explosive steam and gas and exhausted in his efforts, this model Illinois radical took his seat.

This two hours' tirade of Ingersoll "was glory enough for one day," but an extra allowance was given in a somewhat similar speech from Mr. Lawrence (republican), of Pennsylvania. His variations were, first, a showing up of Heister Clymer (democratic candidate now in the field for Governor of Pennsylvania), as a man who had denounced Andrew Johnson two years ago "as a ruffian, an incendiary, a hireling and an abolitionist, and utterly unworthy the confidence of the democratic party;" and secondly, a showing up of the Blair family, "sometimes on one side and sometimes on another." Thus, through the democratic and Blair influence a man had been appointed United States Marshal for the Western district of Pennsylvania "who had been tried by court martial and dismissed the service for frauds committed on the government." And so, between Ingersoll and Lawrence, Andrew Johnson would, perhaps, have been utterly annihilated, had not one or two democrats, including the indomitable and always ready Mr. Rogers (famously known as Jack Rogers), of New Jersey, come to the rescue. Otherwise, from the dead silence of Mr. Raymond and all the other republican conservatives of the House, such as they are, the President would have been condemned without a word in his defence.

Now, we must repeat our apprehension that these violent outbreaks in Congress signify that serious and revolutionary troubles are ahead. It is evident that the radicals are determined to bring Andrew Johnson to the gallows. Such denunciations as those of Ingersoll and Lawrence indicate a state of feeling which will not stop short of desperate measures against him. What they are to be is needless now to conjecture; but when baffled politicians, struggling for power, cast off their disguises and declare for no quarter to Andrew Johnson we may look from day to day for still more startling developments.

CRUELTY ON SHIPBOARD.—THE DUTIES OF CAPTAINS AND CREWS.—A case was tried in the Marine Court, on Friday, which presented some very unusual and reprehensible features. A sailor who had been picked up from a wreck off the coast of Mexico, together with two companions, by an American schooner, brought an action for damages against the captain of the schooner for a violent assault committed upon him while on the return voyage to New York, by which one of his eyes was totally destroyed. The testimony elicited a very extraordinary

fact, which, for the honor of our merchant marine, we are happy to say, has rarely if ever occurred before. The captain of this vessel, finding that the unfortunate man whom he had rescued from death were in possession of some money, charged them sixty dollars each for their passage to this port, and subsequently demanded their services as seamen in working the vessel. In resisting this demand the assault was committed. Without commenting further upon the act of charging passage money for the conveyance of the shipwrecked men than to add that it is contrary to custom in such cases, and not in keeping with the generous and chivalric character supposed to belong to sailors, it must be admitted that these men were in every sense passengers on board that vessel, and the captain had no right to their services in any other capacity. In this light it was evidently viewed by the court, for the poor outraged seamen received five hundred dollars damages.

Cases of cruelty on the part of ship captains on board our trading and emigrant ships, and their subordinate officers, are too frequent. We are always reading in the papers, both in this country and in England, of charges brought against them in the courts, and in some instances severe penalties are imposed. It is true that masters of vessels have a good deal to contend with from unruly sailors. This class require, as a general rule, the exercise of stern discipline; but that is no excuse for the brutal treatment to which they are so frequently subjected. The law should be made more definite, declaring what the duties of the men before the mast are, and what the authority of the captain is.

Fifty years ago, before the war of 1812, the barbarous cruelty of American ship captains was proverbial. With our increased enlightenment of course an improvement has taken place since then, but the evil is not bad enough still. Captains of English merchantmen are not exempted from the same charge, and their unjust severity is not confined to the crew, but is exercised also upon the unfortunate emigrant passengers. But there appears to be a better influence brought to bear by the application of the law in England reaching these cases, and the brutality of captains in the merchant service is more or less restrained. Why not we have laws as stringent to reach this subject on this side of the Atlantic? If we had a Board of Admiralty, for instance, similar to that existing in England, a great many of those evils incident to the emigrant and carrying trade could be remedied, and our merchant vessels would be commanded by better navigators than, in too many cases, now have charge of them.

MARKET HOUSE OBSTRUCTIONS AND OTHER NUISANCES.—The Board of Health has been at work upon the Washington Market obstructions and nuisances, and seems to have suspended its functions in regard to market reform at that place. Why not investigate complaints about Fulton Market, as well as Centre Market, Essex Market, &c., in all of which encroachments have been made upon the rights of citizens, the privileges of regular marketmen, and the convenience, health and comfort of the public generally? When Centre Market was built a space on the north end, at Broome street, we are informed, was left, designed to facilitate the unloading of market truck. In open violation of the market laws, which really appear to be a dead letter, the walk on the east side is now enclosed with wooden sheds through which there is no passing, and pedestrians are obliged to cross to the other side of the street. At the end on Broome street the space is enclosed and occupied by dealers in dry goods, crockery ware, West India fruits, pickles, pocketbooks, penknives and penitence. In consequence of this enclosure it is impossible for the market to be properly ventilated, and, as a matter of course, meats and vegetables decay quickly and furnish food to feed the cholera or any other epidemic. The regular market stalls also become so darkened as to require lighting up early in the afternoon. Some times the stench in an afternoon in this market is alone sufficient to breed disease. All this can be attributed to the encroachments that have been made, inch by inch and foot by foot, upon the space allotted by law for the regular market ground, a matter to which the attention of the Board of Health is called by the appeals of many suffering citizens.

CHOLERA PRICES FOR COUNTRY BOARDING.—Taking advantage of the city about the cholera committing ravages in this city the approaching summer, and the presumed panic among citizens in consequence, country people are requiring the most exorbitant rates for summer boarding. In places where fair country boarding could at other times be obtained for the season at from three to seven dollars per week, double those rates are demanded. What will be the result of this spirit of speculation upon the apprehensions of city people? It will be this: Many of the country boarding places will be deserted and the seaside and mountain summer resorts occupied by city people who would, at reasonable rates, have been satisfied with good, homely country board. Like some avaricious country people who hold on to their produce, their butter, cheese, &c., anticipating a rise, they will in the end be compelled to do as some dairy farmers have had to do; that is, to sell their butter on terms and at a time it would only pay to be used for wagon grease. We advise all people who keep places of summer resort, whether they furnish solid home comforts or are centres for the display of fashion and extravagance, not to be too greedy. The cholera may not produce a panic that will drive so many people from their city homes as they imagine.

ARMY BULLETIN.

MUSTERED OUT.—Colonels—Henry F. Clark, George Thorn, Amos Rockwell, John C. Nelson, William F. Reynolds, Thomas J. Haines, John S. McCormick, Robert C. Chay, Edward G. Breckwith, Samuel R. Halstead.

Brevet Brigadier Generals—William Myers, George D. Hughes.

Lieutenants Colonels—B. S. Alexander, Frank Myers.

Majors—David C. Houston, C. H. Newell.

Captains—Daniel C. Hughes, William Barstow and George G. Scott, Aid de Camps, from May 31.

Captain William M. Dunn, Jr., A. A. General, from May 3.

RESIGNED.—Captain John C. Palfrey, Brevet Colonel Engineer Corps, May 1.

First Lieutenant Alexander Johnson, Eleventh United States Infantry, from May 1.

ORDNANCE OFFICERS ORDERED.—Brevet Major General George D. Ramsay, to command Washington Arsenal.

Brevet Colonel T. S. Laidley, to command the New York Arsenal.

Brevet Colonel J. G. Benton, to command the Springfield Arsenal.

DISCHARGED.—Hospital Stewards John D. W. Roberts, J. M. Dixon and Miles H. Shucroft, United States Army.